

Appl. No. 10/624,954
Amdt. dated 5/18/08
Reply to Office action of 3/20/08

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-8 remain in the application and are subject to examination. Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled.

In "Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103," item 2 on pages 2-6 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1-8 have been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 1,542,027 to Blaine in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,490,974 to Wadlinger et al. (hereinafter Wadlinger) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The rejection has been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful. Claim 1 calls for, *inter alia*, a device for throwing-on impression and throwing-off impression in a printing press, comprising:

- an impression cylinder;
- a single cylinder acting as a form cylinder, a blanket cylinder or both;
- an applicator roller;
- a roller throw-on and throw-off bearing for throwing said applicator roller on and off said single cylinder, said roller throw-on and throw-off bearing including a rotatably mounted first actuating element;
- a cylinder throw-on and throw-off bearing for throwing said single cylinder on and off said impression cylinder, said cylinder throw-on and throw-off bearing including a rotatably mounted second actuating element;

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a coupler forming a coupler mechanism together with said first and said second actuating elements; and

a thrust joint having a dead thrust travel and articulatingly connecting one of said actuating elements to said coupler, said thrust joint having a slot and a joint pin, said joint pin covering a thrust travel within said slot while throwing said single cylinder on and off said impression cylinder, and said slot having a length greater than said thrust travel.

Thus, claims 1 and 8 have been amended to state that the thrust joint has a slot and a joint pin, the joint pin covers a thrust travel within the slot while throwing the single cylinder on and off the impression cylinder, and the slot has a length greater than the thrust travel. Claim 6 has been amended to be consistent with the changes to claim 1.

Support for the changes is found in lines 1-4 on page 31 of the Specification of the instant application.

Independent claim 8 contains similar language.

Neither the Blaine nor the Wadlinger references disclose the newly-added limitations of claims 1 and 8. The advantages of these limitations are discussed in the last paragraph on page 30 of the Specification of the instant application.

Clearly, neither Blaine nor Wadlinger show a thrust joint having a slot and a joint pin, the joint pin covering a thrust travel within a slot while throwing a single cylinder acting as a form cylinder, a blanket cylinder or both on and off an impression cylinder, and the slot having a length greater than the thrust travel, as recited in claims 1 and 8 of the instant application.

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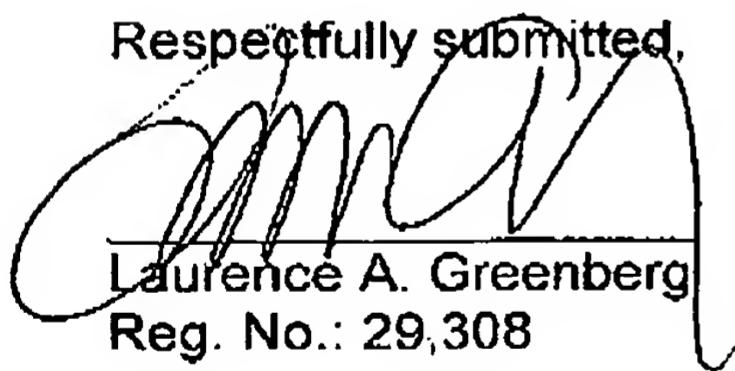
It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 and 8. Claims 1 and 8 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-8 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension is required for this paper, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee and any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 should be charged to Deposit Account Number 12-1099 of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



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